

Which Tribe?

The Yakama Nation is the only Tribe within Yakima County

Tribal request and addressing homelessness

The Yakima Nation has GAU programs. Clients are eligible when they are denied by our rules and regulations. We have provided them with information as to our process and requirements. Most times they assist their cliental in obtaining the required information and/or provide them with assistance when they are denied by us.

We were part of a large group of agencies within the Reservation in developing and implementing Noah's Ark. This project has been very successful in that it provides a large shelter for our homeless populations. Included is the ability to apply for Social Service Benefits and get information about community resources.

Who is the R2's IPPS

Phil Ambrose is Region 2's Indian Policy and Support Services representative. He is housed within our CSO. For high level official meetings he is our direct contact. He is consulted before we proceed with any high level administrative meetings. For day to day communication we have established a process with the Deputy Director of Human Services. Concerns and/or issues from the Tribe Members go directly to DDS and relayed to the Wapato Administrator. A meeting will take place to resolve the issues/concerns.

Communication Progress works because

The Wapato Administrator has established a standard meeting every other week with tribal agencies. He also meets with the Director of Human Services, HEW Chairperson, and Tribal Director. Communication revolves around DSHS programs, provides updates to changes, and to answer and clarify questions.

We provide outreach to small towns that do not have access to our office due to transportation issues.

We continue to provide invitations to training that may be of benefit to Tribal staff and assist them with cultural events.

The Wapato Administrator sits on the Yakima Reservation "Boys & Girls" board

The Nation often provides us flyers of activities being held, we assist by distributing to native clients coming into our office, IE

White Swan Ambulance to set up this year's "First" Aid/CPR class

Yakama Nation Diabetes Workshops flyers

Walk-a-mile health programs
Requesting we be involved in a relay for “Cancer Awareness Walk”

We send a staff person to the main office of the reservation to provide technical
Support and information for Children’s Administration

Current WF Sanction progress

Although we have not seen a decrease of Native sanction cases we are having more cooperation and understanding as to the process by Tribal Counsel. By informing them as to the actions being taken to engage the client prior to sanctioning they have become less critical of the number of clients in sanction. By involving them in case staffing they are aware of the resistance we are encountering and the barriers that the clients have.

The Yakama Tribe has a WIA program similar to our Work First program. We work with them by referring clients to their Tech Centers for tutoring and job search. This has been helpful as tribal members feel more comfortable working with their people and the Tech centers are closer to their residence.

Radio Announcement, paper

The radio and Yakima nation paper charge a fee for communicating our information. Due to budget freeze we no longer send information. However in the past we would provide eligibility information for each of the programs we have in place. We would provide information of how to access and/or apply for services and the addresses of offices within our Region, phone numbers, and contact persons.

If we were having special community events, workshops, fair we provided that information as well

We also communicate through emails

Regional 701.1 plan

We neglected to mention that although the center of the Yakama Nation resides in the Wapato, Toppenish catchments area; the plan is distributed to all the CSO’s within our Region. They are involved of the agreements we have made to the Nation should Native clients request services in their prospective offices.

When staff has questions related to Native clients they are to contact the Regional Liaison, Yolanda McGrann and/or Oscar Olney, Wapato CSO.

All CSO A’s, RA, and regional managers have gone been made aware of the 7.01 plan as well as attended mandatory “Government to Government” training.

Within the region most staff working within the Yakama Nation Reservation has attended “Government to Government” Training. We have been unable to provide the training to additional staff (offices not near the reservation) because the training has not been conducted on the east side. Travel to the west side would be very costly.

We do strive to provide “Cultural” training by inviting local Yakama Tribal members to our offices and share information.